

KANSAS FARMING.

Noteworthy Incidents Among the Farmers of the State.

Corn planting has been going on for a week in Southern Kansas.

Advices from Piqua say that winter wheat is seriously injured.

A correspondent from Ponnoma writes that the winter wheat is badly frozen out.

A. H. Smith, elected Mayor of Wellington, owns 2,000 acres of land in Sumner county.

Capt. Pierce, of Junction City, set out one thousand apple trees in his orchard on Arbor Day.

Winter wheat in the vicinity of Logan is fair. There is about 10 per cent. more sown than last year.

It takes 4,500 bushels of wheat per day to keep the mills of Salina running to their full capacity.

Prospects for wheat in the neighborhood of Edgerton is poor; unfavorable weather and fly are the causes.

Summer county is still troubled with rabid dogs. The Press says five farmers, living near Rome, were bitten the other day.

Scandia Journal: We learn that the winter wheat in Beaver and Norway townships has been entirely killed by the past severe winter.

A. W. Keeling, who for some years has owned the old Inley farm near Oklawaha, committed suicide by hanging on Friday last. He has been insane for some months.

Iola Register: Our seed men report the sale of more clover seed this spring than they have ever before sold in any one year. Our farmers are all beginning to see the necessity of providing themselves with tame grass pastures.

El Dorado Republican: Corn planting is progressing. Probably one third of the acreage of the county will be in the ground by the last of the week. Some corn was planted last week which has begun to come up.

Augusta Gazette: We took a ride to the country, last Saturday, and during the trip passed many wheat fields, but one of which looked good. While the others were poor, very poor, and will doubtless be ploughed up and seeded to corn.

Winfield Courier: The Independence papers boast of corn selling there at thirty cents a bushel. If Montgomery county would raise more stock her corn would be worth something. Cowley's home demand has kept corn at forty to forty-five cents for several months past.

Wellingtonian: Advices from the country say that the fruit crop is still unimpaired except the most tender variety, which, of course, is not taken into account in making up the crop estimates. Peach trees are in bloom and the buds on the apple trees are beginning to swell.

George S. Eaton, a farmer residing near Valley Center, says the Wichita Beacon, reports that he will have full two-thirds of a crop of wheat, and some of the neighbors, he says, will have a full crop. All the promising wheat was sown in corn stalks and was protected to some extent from the frost. Wheat in the same locality, sown upon open land, was frozen out and much of it will be ploughed up and planted in corn.

Atchison Globe: We desire to warn farmers against a new swindle. Two strangers meet at a farmer's house to stay all night, and during the evening they get up a trade between themselves, which requires a witness, and the farmer is asked to sign the papers, simply to witness the trade. If he does so he soon finds that his name is signed to a note which he has to pay. The law does not seem to touch these cases, and farmers should hang the first man caught at it.

Wichita Eagle: There is much complaint against the city and its authorities, by farmers adjoining the city, for the manner in which dead animals, especially dead horses and dogs, are disposed of. In many cases they are hauled beyond the city limits and just dumped out, in others not half covered, and so on. One gentleman told us yesterday that a horse, dying of something like the glanders, was hauled out and dumped on his farm. If there is an ordinance covering this matter it ought to be enforced; if not, then one should be passed.

Kansas farmers, says the Newton Republican, are not to be caught napping. Last week just a day or two before wheat took an upward leap, several eastern buyers sent men out to Kansas to buy all the wheat they could get. Harvey county farmers who were visited by these men had their suspicions aroused by the offer of a few cents above the market value and in most instances refused to sell. Upon inquiring they of course discovered that wheat had taken a jump of 16 cents. The farmers are now marketing the cereal as rapidly as they can haul it to town.

Bulls and Carabos.

These are the volcanoes of the human system. They proceed from impure blood and form a riotous demoralization of the digestive organs. They are annoying, painful and sometimes dangerous. They can be driven out by toning up the system, and this can best be done by the use of Brown's Iron Bitters. Messrs. Handy & Bullman, druggists, Annapolis, Md., say, "We sell lots of Brown's Iron Bitters. All who use it seem pleased. We hear not one complaint."

KANSAS WOMEN.

Items of Interest Concerning Them.

Mrs. Katie Wentz was fatally burned in a prairie fire four miles from Offerte, last week.

Mr. Williams and pupils surrounded the Frankfort school house with 177 trees on Arbor day. Miss May Hartman planted 26 trees and scrubbed the school house in the Hawkins district.

Dodge City Times: The "widows retreat" is the name of a new settlement two or three miles south of the city. Mrs. A. L. Robbins, Mrs. L. E. Atchison, Mrs. Mary Lyman and Mrs. M. Wolf, have taken claims on the Osage lands. What a fine chance for four widows!

Courier: Miss Anna Kuhn, one of Winfield's sturdy young ladies who is "holding down" a claim in Clark county, came home last Thursday and returned to her post of honor to-day. Miss Iowa

Roberts is also at home after several weeks' sojourn on her Clark county claim.

Emporia News: There is perhaps no home in this city adorned with as many fine and richly framed paintings as the residence of Dr. J. A. Moore. An unusual feature of this gallery, which grace any art collection, and of which every piece bears the characteristics of an artist's work, is that almost without exception it is executed by Miss Ida Moore. Among the rare exceptions we had the pleasure of noting an excellent portrait of Dr. Moore, just finished, done by Mrs. George Strunk, and presented to Miss Moore. This is a life-sized oil painting, three-quarters length. It is a fine work in every particular. The position is standing, with arm supported on a banister. The background is a library scene, of the artist's own designing. The finish is remarkably natural, and withal, another, it is not strange that it should be, as it is, among the most highly prized paintings of the collection.

GRAND ARMY GLEANINGS.

Particulars Pertaining to the Post.

The sons of veterans have organized a camp at Winfield.

A Post of the G. A. R. has been organized at Garden Plain.

They manufacture G. A. R. flour at Sedgewick city.

The old soldiers of Iola celebrated the anniversary of the battle of Shiloh.

Frankford Bee: The G. A. R. have decided to hold the county reunion at this place, and the Adjutant instructed to confer with the other Posts of the county to fix the dates.

News: The G. A. R. post of Stockton, have made arrangements to build a hall 40x100 feet, with an armory down stairs. The building will be a stone one and will be a credit to the G. A. R. boys.

Wichita Beacon: Department Commander Stewart, Assistant Adjutant General Woodcock, and Quartermaster General Myers, have each received a beautiful gold G. A. R. badge as presents from J. Olds of Philadelphia.

Centralia Journal: The G. A. R. Post bought of F. A. Stiekel & Co., the hall they now occupy on Wednesday last for \$300 and will make immediate improvement. The Post is composed of solid citizens, and no doubt will keep abreast of the times in this matter.

Iola Register: A large delegation from McCook post G. A. R., went to Moran last night to help Sanders post celebrate the anniversary of Lee's surrender. We acknowledge a cordial invitation to accompany them, and very much regret that it was impossible for us to leave town.

Newton Republican: The lecture by Mrs. Anna Wittenmyer at the Baptist church, last evening, was highly interesting. Mrs. Wittenmyer is thoroughly conversant with her subject and is a very fluent speaker. The G. A. R. people will come out several dollars ahead, and will devote the proceeds to expenses of decoration day.

Eldorado Times: The ladies of the Relief Corps have a pillow of velvet beautifully wrought in roses, vines, etc.—a veritable posy-bed—on exhibition at the U. S. Boot and Shoe store which is to be sold by 200 tickets at 50 cents each, one of which will bear a lucky number and win the pillow. The proceeds of the sale will go to purchase a new carpet for Masonic hall. The work on the pillow is in the highest degree creditable to the skill of Mrs. A. F. Roberts, who generously donates it for the purpose named.

Lyons Democrat: The G. A. R. entertainment was greeted by the largest audience of the season; the hall being crowded and seats at a premium. The evening passed very pleasantly and the programme was presented in a very creditable manner by the "boys" who took part, and they all have a right to feel proud of their efforts in planning, and bringing to a successful termination, so good an evening's entertainment. We understand the Post realized a handsome sum that will replenish the relief fund, which has been severely depleted by charitable work during the Winter just ended.

A special meeting of Lincoln Post, Topeka was held at G. A. R. Hall on the evening of the 15th, in honor of Col. M. Stewart, the new department commander. Geo. M. Noble, J. S. Shellabarger, H. K. Danenhauer, Geo. F. Parmelee, and A. K. Rodgers were mustered. After the ceremonies an impromptu camp fire was called in which the ladies of the Relief Corps joined. Col. Stewart complimented the Post on the excellency of their work. Post Commander Hannaford, of Wisconsin, Col. Carroll, of Paola; Post Commander Pond, of Ft. Scott; Commander Capson, of Chicago; Col. Woodcock, of Wichita; Mrs. Finley and Mrs. Huron, of Topeka, and others, made short addresses. The occasion was a most enjoyable one. The committee appointed by the various G. A. R. Posts on Memorial Day are requested to meet at Major Anderson's office on Saturday at 4 p. m. for the purpose of organizing.

The Committee on Transportation appointed by the department encampment of the Grand Army to secure routes to Portland, Me., for those who wish to attend the National Encampment in June next, met at the Windsor hotel in Topeka April 15th. They were met by passenger agents from various railroads. The members of the committee regarded the rate of \$37.50 from the Missouri river as too high to take any considerable number from Kansas and as the railroad men present were not authorized to make any lower rate, it was decided to make an appeal to the general managers for a reduced rate for Kansas. The following resolutions were adopted:

Resolved, That the committee on transportation do not feel justified in recommending any particular railroad line to the members of the G. A. R. in the state, but that the matter be left with the various posts of the department to make their own arrangements.

Resolved, That the department officers, delegates and their families will travel by the lines giving the lowest rates and best facilities.

The committee adjourned subject to the call of the department commander.

—There is scarcely a farm in Backs county to-day, says The Doylestown (Pa.) Intelligencer, that would sell for more than the improvements in buildings and fences would cost.

KANSAS STATE NEWS.

Sterling observed Arbor Day.

Hodgeman county has twelve postoffices.

Cowley county is to have a \$3,000 poor house.

Carpenters and masons are called for at Norton.

Ex-Gov. Glick has returned from Washington.

The school board of Lindsborg observed Arbor Day.

"Progressive eucure" has reached the northern tier.

The Republic County Pilot has been started at Cuba.

Ten new houses are in course of erection at Minneapolis.

Twenty emigrant teams came into Stockton Sunday last.

The public square at Phillipsburg was planted in trees on Arbor day.

The Winfield school board set out 300 maples on the different school grounds.

The Santa Fe officials planted trees about the offices and yards of the company at Nickerson.

The Kansas Sugar company at Sterling expects to make a large amount of sugar the coming season.

Hon. C. J. Jones, of Garden City, had a sale of his town lots last week, which aggregated over \$5,000.

On account of the fear that diphtheria might become epidemic in the schools of Hiawatha, a vacation was given last week.

Frank K. Raymond has been appointed official reporter for the different District courts of the Thirteenth Judicial District.

There is some reason to believe that the Santa Fe company will build a line of railway from a point near Florence direct to Wichita.

Hon. A. J. Hoinington states that every one hundred proofs, made in Comanche county, are held by the General Land Office, for investigation.

Arbor Day was duly observed by the Valley Falls schools. About seventy-five trees were planted, and quite a number of roses and flowering shrubs.

Seven new brick two-story business houses are on the tapis at Independence, to be built on the burned district just as soon as the material can be procured.

Abilene has recently suffered the damages of two fires, one was an ice house and the other a row of frame business houses on Spruce street. The total loss will probably reach \$9,000.

Twenty-three thousand acres of land were recently entered in one day at the Garden City land office. The settlers are largely in Clark, Meade and Comanche counties.

The old residence building of Dan Ainsworth, situated in the north part of Newton, near Sand Creek, one of the early "land marks," was burned down Monday morning last about 7 o'clock.

Ellsworth Reporter: At least 100,000 trees were planted in Kansas on Arbor Day. The pupils of the Ellsworth public schools set out trees on the school house grounds, and it is expected that each child will look after his or her particular tree.

The county commissioners have let the contract for the Ottawa county new court house to Kelly & Stephenson and Lindgren & Manly, home contractors, for \$19,900. Work will be commenced immediately and the building will be inclosed this year and finished next. This is quite a victory for Minneapolis.

At Auberry, Johnson county, two young men named Frank Harrison and John Kearner quarreled about a girl to whom both had been paying attentions. Suddenly Kearner drew a revolver and shot and instantly killed Harrison. Both young men belong to well-to-do families of the county. Kearner went to Olathe and gave himself up to the authorities and is now in jail.

Wellington Press: A private letter received by a lady in this city from her husband who is in New Kiowa, says that a few days ago four cowboys entered that town and took possession of everything, enforcing their demands at the revolver's muzzle. They put a stop to all building arrangements, ran all the land agents out of town. They further swore that the railroad should not enter the place. The building contractors, Messrs. Dobbs & Campbell, have discharged all of the carpenters in their employ, who have gone back to Caldwell, where quiet reigns. J. C. Jackson and son, formerly of this place, have packed their "kit" and gone to Medicine Lodge.

Hiawatha is in a flutter of excitement over the report that the Missouri Pacific is to build an extension from that point to Denver. "The news comes direct from the headquarters of the company," says the World, "and whether or not it starts from Hiawatha the indications would seem to warrant the belief that the new line will be speedily built. The Missouri Pacific, under the existing arrangements, is cut off from all western business except with the one line—the Central Branch and their lease of that is but temporary. There is but the alternative left, then, of building a line of their own through to Denver, and a fight for their share of business, gives up the field to the other lines, or brings them to satisfactory terms."

Wichita Eagle: And now they have newfangled ways of getting married as well as doing almost everything else. A gentleman who came here a short time ago from Texas, and whose face is becoming quite familiar on Douglas avenue, was married by telegram day before yesterday. The girl was at one end of the wire at Dallas, Texas, while the man was here at the other end of the wire. The vows were passed between the parties which made them one. The preacher also was in Texas. It may be a very good way to get married, but it would appear to us to be a little odd. We prefer the old style.

STOCK SQUILES.

Points and Items about Kansas Stock.

Watch the dogs now.

The late warm weather has caused the manifestation of the heel fly.

The cattle that get bogged are those which are too weak to extricate themselves.

The Salem Argus says that cattle are doing well and horses are in fine shape in that locality.

W. J. Smith, of Severy, shipped one hundred head of fine fat cattle from Severy to St. Louis a few days ago.

Frank Randall of Manhattan was so unfortunate as to lose a thoroughbred Jersey calf last week. Had it lived it would have easily brought \$100.

Peabody Gazette: Messrs. Rathbone sold 180 head of fat steers for \$5.50 per 100 lbs. the other day. W. H. Sutphin sold 150 head for a good figure.

Peabody Gazette: It cost the Short Horn breeders in the recent combination sale \$750 to sell their 100 animals, or \$7.50 per head. This shows that getting up a big sale is quite a costly affair.

Peabody Gazette: Dr. Loose bought a splendid Berkshire sow at Dr. Lackey's sale for \$15. The same night she gave birth to seven beautiful pigs, making the doctor's Berkshires cost him less than \$2 a head.

Oswego Republican: W. W. Inglish, who had a span of horses stolen from him some six years ago, was lucky to recognize and claim them on the street one day last week. They were among a lot of horses on their way West.

Cattlemen in southern Kansas are not much concerned about the settlement upon their ranges of grangers. The cattlemen consider that the grangers will be valued agents in the procurement of titles to the range.

Cattle on the Gopher range in Ford county are in a fair condition. Only a few losses have occurred there up to the present time. There are twelve thousand head of cattle on this range and there are eighteen acres of grazing land to each head.

Ludwick Kramer, of the cattle firm of Kramer & Sons, whose range is on "No Man's Land," and who are holding 15,000 head of cattle, says that the cattle losses on their range from the warm season of last year to the warm and grass producing season of the present, will not exceed five per cent.

Some cattlemen deny that there is such an insect as a heel fly. An experienced range stockman has informed the Dodge City Courier that he had never found one, although thousands of times he had seen cattle rustling at the height of their speed for the bogs to cool their fevered feet. It is his theory that the annoyance to cattle by the exudation from the spines of grubs, is the cause of the crazy actions which is popularly attributed to the heel fly.

The truth of the matter is that in western Kansas, Texas, southern Colorado and New Mexico cattle went through the winter in unusually fine shape. The weather was the worst ever known, in frigid temperature and prolongation of severity, yet the good condition of the range and the hardihood of the old rangers, enabled the cattle to successfully buffet the icy blasts of the late terrible winter. Where range cattle had an abundance of sea room they got along swimmingly. The late through Texas cattle suffered severely upon the approach of the norther and many of them woodbined, and the loco in some localities caused both horses and cattle to yield to the inevitable. On the whole, however, in the buffalo grass regions east of the mountains, range live stock went through the past winter in a manner satisfactory to the owners. In that portion of the Indian territory, where the regular prairie or blue-stem grass covers the plains, the cattle losses were heavy. There is but little substance in prairie grass in winter. The buffalo grass, when properly cured, is quite as nutritious in winter as when sporting a hue of green.

The Fifer and Drummer of Scituate.

Boston Evening Transcript.

So many different accounts have appeared from time to time regarding "the fifer and the drummer of Scituate," that the public hesitate which to accept. With a view of getting at the real facts, and presenting the subject in an authentic light, your correspondent visited Miss Abby Bates, the surviving sister, to obtain her version of the incident. "Aunt" Abby, as she is familiarly called, lives alone in a low old-fashioned house, on a bluff overlooking the ocean. Although nearly eighty-eight years of age, her mind is clear and her health good.

Rebecca W. and Abby were born in Providentown, Mass., and in 1803 the family moved to Scituate Centre. Her father was a seafaring man. The fishing business was dull, and having a family of thirteen children to provide for, he was obliged to seek other employment. Through the influence of Mr. Jesse Dunbar, the Captain was appointed keeper of the light-house, wherein, December, 1812, the family took up their residence. It was about the middle of the afternoon on a pleasant September day that Rebecca's mother said to her: "Make a fire and put the kettle on; father and the boys will be at home soon." The echo of this command had scarcely died away before the mother escaped two barges heading directly for the light. Each barge was manned by about sixteen men, and carried a brass cannon on its bows. The guard were away. The excited mother, throwing up her arms, exclaimed "Children, the redcoats are coming." At a glance the girls comprehended the situation. "In the north room of the house," said Aunt Abby, "were kept the life and drum belonging to the guard."

"Up into the room rushed Rebecca, and, returning, handed me the drum, saying, 'You be the drummer and I'll be the fife.'" Ensnared behind the light the American army of two began, "Give 'em the roll call," commanded Becky. This being done, the strains of "Hail Columbia" and "Yankee Doodle" pealed forth on the air. The music was continued for some time, now in imitation of an army marching, now counter-marching, until at last it was observed that the La Hogue displayed a flag on the masthead as a signal for the men to return. Peeping from behind the light Rebecca saw that the barges were returning in obedience to the signal. With joy beaming in her girlish eyes she said to her sister, "Scare 'em: I told you so; see, they are going back." "As soon as we saw them return," said Aunt Abby, "we struck to playing 'Yankee Doodle,' because the British dislike that. I tell you sir, we just put in on that too."

"How long shall I let dot dozen of beer stand I've got against you?" asked George Horner, a San Antonio saloon keeper of a local innervate.

"How long have they been standing? More than a year?" asked the local innervate.

"Then you had better empy those bottles. The beer must be flat by this time."

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THE ELECTRICAL AGE.

Wonders of Electricity to be Realized Before Many Years.

Robert Luce in Van Nostrand's Magazine.

The possible application of the principle of the electrical transmission of power are almost numberless. We shall, I believe, at no distant date, have great central stations, possibly situated at the bottom of coalpits, where numerous steam engines will drive many electric machines. We shall have wires laid along every street, the electricity tapped into every house, and the quantity of electricity in each house registered as gas is at present. The storage battery will fill a place corresponding to the gasometer in the gas system, making the current steady, rendering the consumer independent of the irregular action or stoppages of the dynamo of the central station, and enabling the use of dynamo of the highest tension; i. e.: those which produce the currents of the greatest intensity. The electricity will be passed through little electric machines to drive machinery to produce ventilation, to replace stoves and to work all sorts of apparatus, as well as to give everybody an electric light. Solar heat will be used to run the dynamo in the cloudless regions. Everywhere the power of the tides, and such waterfalls as Niagara are to be utilized. Is not a millennium to be anticipated when the water power of a country shall be available at every door? Steam, which in the last century has conferred so many benefits on the world, will give way before electricity. The dynamo will replace the steam engine. This prediction seems wild and visionary, yet when steam was first thought of as an available force its advocates were considered just as the advocates of dynamical electricity to-day are considered, mere enthusiasts. But public opinion never stops the march of intellects. After it had proved the powers of steam to be enormous, genius never halted, but straightway went on anticipating still more wonderful discoveries in the realms of electricity.

The prophetic power of science was happily exhibited by Dr. Lardner, in his treatise on the steam engine. "Philosophy," said he, half a century ago, "already directs her fingers at sources of inexhaustible power in the phenomena of electricity and magnetism, and many causes combine to justify the expectation that we are on the eve of mechanical discoveries still greater than any which have yet appeared; and that the steam engine itself, with the gigantic powers conferred upon it by the immortal Watt will dwindle into insignificance in comparison with the hidden powers of nature still to be revealed, and that the day will come when that machine which is now extending the blessings of civilization to the most remote skirts of the globe will cease to have existence except in the page of history."

To-day we are beginning to appreciate the truth of this prophecy. To-day we see dynamical electricity in the forefront of the physical sciences. The principle of the transmission of power by electricity fast approaches its realization. We are, in truth, just entering upon a wonderful age.

Mr. Cox's Foresight.

A rather amusing instance of the ways of some of the Democratic retrenchers and reformers is afforded by some changes in the last diplomatic appropriation bill. It is to be remembered that Mr. S. S. Cox, who has lately been appointed Minister to Turkey, had a good deal to do with the provisions of this bill as passed at the last session of Congress.

That Mr. Cox, the Congressman and chairman of the committee on Foreign Relations, would legislate so as to make it comfortable for Mr. Cox, the Minister to Turkey, is not to be averred lightly; but somehow or other, things seem to have fallen out that way to a remarkable degree. It turns out that some very material new fills were added to the American legation at Constantinople by this measure. The salary of the Minister Resident was increased from \$7,500 to \$10,000, and besides that, one or two attaches were added and \$1,000 provided for the purchase of a steam launch for the use of the Minister. If Mr. Cox was a Republican, the Democrats would be now plainly intimating that he fixed up things very nicely for himself.

When the next Congress meets it looks as if there was a good chance for a strike in favor of retrenchment and reform by cutting down that \$1,000 steam launch.

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